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[Claim]

1.   A remote health care diagnosis method for storing physical condition data of end user transmitted from a plurality of physical condition data entry terminals in a host computer, and, when a health care administrator gives a health care advice to an end user, providing as the time-series data the physical condition data received and stored in the past if changing history of the physical condition data of the end user has to be referred to, the host computer being connected to the plurality of physical condition data entry terminals via communication lines,
the method comprising:

entering a health condition report as an image data by an optical reading via an image data entry means provided in the physical condition data entry terminal, the health condition report being prepared by the end user who enters the physical condition thereto;

transmitting the image data to the host computer;

retrieving selectively image data relating to the physical condition of the end user stated in the physical condition report from the transmitted image data by the host computer; and

automatically converting the image data selectively retrieved into characters and/or symbol codes by an image data recognition means.

Paragraphs [0003]-[0005]

[0003]

[Problems to be Solved by the Invention]

Because the at-home remote health measuring apparatus which has been utilized up to now tended to result in complicated machine operation, it sometimes took long time to master the operating method particularly for aged end-users.   In addition, since the conventional apparatus needs special-purpose vital sensors, the at-home remote health measuring apparatus tended to become expensive.   It is the object of the present invention to provide a remote health diagnosis method which is easily operated by the home care patients and achieves a low system price and easy introduction for the health care center, too.

[0004]

[Means of Solving the Problems]

An image data entry terminal on the home care side comprises image data reading processing means, image data transmission-reception processing means, and

means for outputting a text form data for health care advice or physical condition report. A host computer comprises image data transmission-reception processing means, image data retrieving processing means, image data recognition processing means, physical condition data storing means, health care control subject attribute files, command entry processing means, physical condition data referring processing means, means for entering health care administration advice message, means for changing physical condition report text form data, means for transmitting health care advice message and physical condition report text form data, and image data transmission-reception processing means.
[0005]

The end user uses conventionally generally commercially available sphygmomanometer for home use and other his/her familiar conventional type, that is, isolated, general-purpose type, home use sphygmomanometer, clinical thermometer, and weighing machine to measure blood pressure, body temperature, weight, etc., enters the measured values in the specified physical condition report text form furnished by the health care administrator with writing materials such as pencils, etc. to prepare the physical condition report, and enters this in the image data entry terminal at the residence. The image data reading processing means of the image data entry terminal acquires the digital image data by scanning the report by an optical sensor, and the image data transmission-reception processing section transmits the image data to the host computer. On the host computer side, the image data transmission-reception processing means receive and process the image data transmitted from the image data entry terminal.   The image data retrieving processing means has a function to retrieve the partial image data containing the data of blood pressure values and heartbeat values of the image data of the physical condition report received.   The image data recognition processing means takes out the vital signs such as blood pressure value, etc. by recognition-processing the part image data.   The physical data storing means stores the vital signs obtained by recognition-processing.   The command entry processing section enters commands for directing various kinds of processing to the host computer when the health care administrator hopes to give health care advice to the optionally selected end user and requests the command processing section to carry out the processing that conforms to the command entered.   The physical condition data referring processing means outputs the health care measured value changing history of the end user for the health care administrator to check the physical condition of the end user and carries out the processing for presenting the information to the health care administrator.   The health care advice message entry processing means enters the health care advice message to be transmitted from the health care administrator to the end user when the health care administrator orders the host computer to carry out health care advice message entry processing by the

command and processes to store the data obtained as a result in the health care control subject attribute file. The physical condition report text form data changing processing means processes instructions to change the physical condition report text form data and to store the data obtained as a result in the health care control subject attribute file. The health care advice message and physical condition report text form data transmission processing means transmits the health care advice message entered for each individual end user and the physical condition report form data changed for each individual end user to the image data input and receiving terminal of the end user. The health care advice message and physical condition report text form data outputting means of the image data entry terminal presents the health care advice message and physical condition report text form transmitted from the host computer.